

INFORMATION LETTER

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

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For Members
Only

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M-81 Errors and Omissions

The Association has been advised by the Civilian Production Administration that a number of errors and omissions occurred in the printing of the amendment to Order M-81, which was issued November 16. Although CPA plans to issue an amendment to rectify these errors and omissions, the N.C.A., as a service to its members, is printing the changes which will be made in the corrected order. These changes are as follows:

Apple sauce—can sizes should be 2 and 10 instead of 2½ and 10.

Asparagus—add No. 2 cans to the sizes listed.

Mixed vegetables items 61 and 62—add No. 2 vacuum (307 x 306) if vacuum packed.

Tomato sauce, including spaghetti sauce—can sizes should be 8 Z Short and 1 Picnic instead of 6 Z Short and 1 Picnic.

Clams—add ½ flat (307 x 200.25) or (307 x 201.25).

Crabmeat—add ½ flat (307 x 201.25).

Herring, Atlantic sea, including sardines—dimensions of ¾ three piece should be (308 x 412 x 112) instead of (306 x 412 x 112), and can materials, soldered parts, for round cans should be 0.50 instead of 1.50.

Tuna—dimensions of No. 1 tuna should be (401 x 205.5) instead of (603 x 205.5).

Item 137—should read "Extracts and flavorings (liquid)" instead of "Extracts and flavorings."

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As predicted in last week's INFORMATION LETTER, the USDA removed the set-asides on all Atlantic sea herring (including Maine sardines), effective November 10. (See story on page 8855.)

Rationing of all canned fish, and meats, fats and oils has been terminated by USDA and OPA, effective November 24. Canned fish is the last of the canned foods to be made ration point free. Other canned foods were removed from rationing after V-J Day. (Story appears on page 8856.)

Board of Directors Meeting

Preceded by a one-day session of the Administrative Council, the Board of Directors of the National Canners Association was in session at Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C., on November 19 and 20. During the sessions the Directors authorized:

1. A survey of the canning industry to determine the adequacy for post-war production of simplified practice recommendations R155-40, the can size list adopted by the industry in 1940.
2. A recommendation to the Administrator of M-81 that when the tin conservation order is next revised it be expanded to permit the use of smaller sized containers.
3. Labeling terminology included in a report of the Labeling Committee, and extended approval to the Committee's recommendations to permit the use of any selection of terms among the required optional terms in Food and Drug regulations which one of the commodity committees, or canners of such commodities, may select.
4. Appointment of a committee to work out a pattern for the selection of the personnel of N. C. A. permanent and special committees.
5. Appointment of an N. C. A. canned seafood committee and employment of a staff member to assist the Secretary in setting up activities and services for fish canner members.
6. Resumption of the pre-war statistical and economic research work of the N. C. A. Division of Statistics on an expanded basis.
7. Purchase by the Building Committee of a site for a new N. C. A. office in the Washington area and employment of an engineering firm to recommend the type of building that will most efficiently supply Association needs.

Directors Hear Committee Reports

During the sessions the Directors heard reports by the respective chairmen of committees dealing with the Association's legislative program, the prospective cannery manpower situation for next year, and the situation as to prospective supplies of tin and sugar for next year's packs. Also they heard a report of plans and procedure covering room reservations and program for the annual convention in Atlantic City the week of February 3. The Directors discussed present and prospective pricing policies, the USDA program and Army procurement policies.

Guest speakers during the program were Geoffrey Baker, Deputy Administrator, Office of Price Administration; E. A. Meyer, Director of the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration; Dr. Paul B. Dunbar, Commissioner, Food

and Drug Administration; and Major General Carl A. Hardigg, Office of the

Quartermaster. Details of the proceedings are reported on the following pages.

DETAILS OF THE N.C.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Legislative Committee Report

Chairman Walter Graefe of the N. C. A. Legislative Committee summarized the progress of the Association's legislative program since the meeting of the Legislative Committee last September. In reviewing the legislation that has been enacted into law since that time and the measures now pending before the Congress, Mr. Graefe pointed out that few of President Truman's proposals have yet been approved by the Congress. Much of the pending legislation might be considered in two categories, he said, first, those bills which seek to aid the transition from war to peace, and second, the measures which are designed to seek peacetime social and economic reforms.

Mr. Graefe said that among those measures which have already been relaxed by administrative action, are the wartime controls such as rationing, manpower restrictions, set-aside orders, and the like. Nevertheless, he said, some 225 different statutes remain fully in force to be terminated when the end of the war is proclaimed by the President or declared by Congress, if this date occurs before the specific termination date in the particular statute. This whole question is now under study by both the House Judiciary Committee and the Special House Committee on Post-War Policy and Reconversion.

Mr. Graefe emphasized that one of the most important bills now pending before Congress is the bill introduced by Senator Claude Pepper to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act. While committees in both the House and Senate have held extensive hearings on this proposed bill, the measure has not been reported out on the floor of either chamber pending a complete study of the hearings. If the proposed amendments should pass they would directly affect the canning industry in many important respects, Mr. Graefe said. (Complete details as to the proposed measures and to the hearings have been fully covered in the INFORMATION LETTERS for the past two months.)

The following are highlights from Mr. Graefe's report:

Unemployment compensation — The Senate passed a greatly amended version of the unemployment compensation bill, proposed by the President, but the House Ways and Means Committee by a vote of 14 to 10 tabled the entire

proposal and it is doubted that the measure will be brought upon the floor for a vote. (See INFORMATION LETTER for September 29, page 8789.)

Price Control and Subsidies — Price control is very closely tied in with subsidies, support prices, the parity formula and the continuation of wartime price controls. Stabilization Director John C. Collet, has announced that subsidies on canned fruits and vegetables will not be continued beyond the end of this year's pack. (See INFORMATION LETTER for November 10, page 8831.)

Another aspect of the subsidy question in 1946 so far as legislation is concerned, is that the subsidy authority may expire on June 30, 1946, if the Emergency Price Control Act and the Stabilization Act are not extended beyond their present termination dates. Likewise, no further subsidies are possible without express Congressional authority and appropriations.

The evaluation of parity also is a factor in the price picture. If parity prices are revised upward by the inclusion of labor costs and if support prices are continued for a longer period, there is a question as to how this program may be performed. Mr. Graefe stated that while no definite statements have been made by the various government agencies, there is some possibility that the commitments with respect to support prices and parity prices may be carried out by the imposition of production quotas. It was not clear, he said, as to whether additional legislation will be needed to authorize such quotas if such quotas are considered necessary.

Other legislation now pending before Congress, discussed by Mr. Graefe, included the Full Employment Bill, amendments to the Social Security statutes, and possibilities of extending strike legislation.

Cannery Manpower Problems

Following Mr. Graefe's report, John F. McGovern, chairman of the Manpower Committee, briefly summarized the manpower problems which may affect cannery during the coming year. He said the needs for cannery labor and labor on the farms would be great next year and urged that steps be taken to meet these requirements.

Mr. McGovern said that cannery would not have the use of prisoner of war labor next year and must depend entirely on what help they might obtain from the imported foreign labor program. A bill now pending before the House Appropriations Committee would provide \$14,000,000 to carry on this

program next year, he said, but certain farm groups are trying to get the Senate to raise this appropriation to \$20,000,000 when the measure comes before that branch of the Congress for approval. (See INFORMATION LETTER for October 27, page 8817.)

Mr. McGovern said that the imported labor program would operate much the same in 1946 as it did this year, with the exception that the Labor Branch of the Department of Agriculture will be permitted to assess the employers using the labor to defray part of the expenses of bringing them into the country.

Mr. McGovern also discussed the proposal now before Congress to return the U. S. Employment Services to the States. Under a present bill these services would be returned to the States within 30 days after the passage of the bill. However, Mr. McGovern pointed out that a compromise measure might be reached where the USES would be returned to the States within 120 days after the bill is signed, thereby permitting the services to continue without interruption in their recruitment of labor.

Simplification of Containers

H. F. Krimendahl, chairman of the Committee on Simplification of Containers, and Oliver Willits, followed Mr. McGovern reporting on the program for the simplification of can sizes and the tin situation.

Mr. Krimendahl reported that the Committee on Simplification of Containers had made a complete study of the current situation with respect to the simplification of tin containers for canned foods, and that it was now ready to ask the Board of Directors for authorization to permit the N. C. A. staff to discuss with the Bureau of Standards and State and regional canner organizations the possibilities of simplifying containers after the expiration of Conservation Order M-81. Text of a resolution proposed by the committee and which was passed by the Board of Directors, upon the motion of E. R. Elwell, seconded by George H. Hall, follows (Mr. Krimendahl's complete report appears on page 8853.) :

The Committee on Simplification of Containers recommends to the Board of Directors that it promptly authorize and direct the Association staff to discuss with the Division of Simplified Practice of the National Bureau of Standards, and to enlist the cooperation of the Bureau, in conducting under Bureau auspices a survey of the canning industry to determine the adequacy for post-war production, when tin conservation orders are terminated, of Simplified Practice Recommendation R. 155-40, which was in 1940 adopted by the industry, and also to enlist in

this work the cooperation of all State and regional canners' organizations.

Tin Supply Situation

Before reporting on the tin situation, Mr. Willits introduced Kelly Wright, who succeeded Glenn Knaub as administrator of Order M-81. Mr. Wright spoke briefly, offering his cooperation with the canning industry.

Chiefly because of the lack of information on the availability of tin in the Malay States and due to the fighting in the Dutch East Indies, an accurate report on tin supplies is not possible at this time, Mr. Willits said. He was somewhat optimistic, however, pointing out that the Bolivian tin supply was of better quality than expected, and that due to new electrolytic methods it is possible that more of the Bolivian tin can be utilized, he said.

Mr. Willits thanked Administrator John D. Small of the Civilian Production Administration, E. A. Meyer and Glenn Knaub of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and State Department officials for the assistance given him and other members of the committee in making his report on tin supplies.

Mr. Willits said that before Pearl Harbor about 34,000 tons of tin were annually used for making food cans, but probably not more than 23,000 tons would be available for this purpose in 1946. He also emphasized the fact that can manufacturers were having to compete strongly with the automobile industry, radio manufacturers, refrigerator manufacturers and other industries who use great quantities of tin. To offset these factors, he said, are the reduced tin requirements for the Army and Navy and the possibility of soon obtaining additional supplies from the Malay States, and eventually from the Dutch East Indies.

There was further discussion of the container situation and of the recent amendment to M-81 at the second day's sessions of the Board and a resolution was passed recommending to the administrator of the order that when the regulation is next revised it be expanded to permit use of smaller sizes so as to accommodate the consumer needs for such sizes, particularly among smaller size family units, and that such revision be made in time to permit production of canned foods in the can sizes included in the Simplified Container Size Program in effect in 1941.

Government Programs

The afternoon session was given over to government regulatory matters, with addresses on the Office of Price Administration's pricing program, by Geoffrey Baker, OPA Assistant Deputy Administrator, and on the postwar pro-

gram of the U. S. Department of Agriculture by E. A. Meyer, Director of the Fruit and Vegetable Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Mr. Baker stated that the agency does not remove price controls unless it is believed that supply and demand are in balance. In cases where decontrol has taken place, he said, the action was on two premises: (1) that the level of prices would not rise above ceilings, (2) when the items removed from price control are not significant in living costs.

The life of the Price Control Act after its June 23, 1946, expiration date depends, of course, on what action Congress will take, Mr. Baker stated. Without exact foreknowledge of what that action will be, his advice to canners is to make up their minds as early as possible whether or not they want a continuation of price control, but at the same time to go ahead with preliminary planning for 1946 just as though the controls are to be continued.

He hoped that by the time of the February Convention in Atlantic City it would be apparent that if ceilings were removed canned foods prices would not rise above what OPA considered appropriate levels. He expressed the guess that such a finding would not be possible in regard to canned fruits.

Mr. Meyer stated that there will be no subsidy in 1946 nor will there be a government program for the purchase of finished goods. This year's commitments will be honored, he said, but he cautioned the industry to try to clean up inventories by selling on the public market. He believes this to be an industry responsibility and said he considered it a favorable market because of present high income levels, and a higher degree of canned foods consumption than ever before in the history of the industry.

He pointed out that production figures show an approximate 70 per cent increase over the 10-year average.

Mr. Meyer invited the industry to help the USDA decide what its 1946 program on canned vegetables should be.

A report of the Labeling Committee was given by Chairman E. B. Cosgrove, highlights of which are presented on page 8854. At the conclusion of discussion following the report the Board members passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Board of Directors approve the label terms included in the report of the Chairman of the Labeling Committee and extend approval to the recommendations of any selection of terms from among the re-

quired optional terms in Food and Drug Administration regulations which one of the commodity committees may select or may be selected by mail vote from canners of such products and approved by the Labeling Committee.

Following this, Ralph O. Dulany delivered the report of the trustees of the Protective Fund which is reproduced in full on page 8852.

Association Activities

Secretary Carlos Campbell led a discussion on Tuesday morning of the Association's activities, the organization of its committees and staff, analysis of its budget, and an outline of projected plans.

He stated that the matter of N.C.A. committees is and has been very important in the success of the Association and the industry. After appropriate discussion a motion was passed providing for a committee to work out methods of appointing future committees so as to ensure appropriate representation for regions and products, to obtain the services of members best qualified by training and experience to serve on the given group, and to devise methods of obtaining more frequent rotation of committee personnel. Recommendation along these lines are to come before the next Board meeting.

Authorization also was given for the appointment of an N.C.A. Canned Seafood Committee and employment of a member of the staff to assist the Secretary in setting up activities and services for the benefit of fish canner members.

Following discussion of the desirability of improving Association accounting methods so that the budget and accounting classifications are brought into conformity, the Directors voted approval of steps to make revisions in this direction.

The Board also voted approval of recommendation that the Division of Statistics restore as rapidly as possible its system of collecting statistics on packs, stocks, and shipments of canned foods, and re-establish and expand its work on collection and analysis of other data of value to the industry, including economic research programs. Much of this work was interrupted by the war.

The Secretary also was authorized to develop and submit to the Board at its next meeting recommendations for coordinating the present activities of the various divisions of the Association in the field of public relations.

Discussions following the report of the Building Committee by Chairman Sherwin Haxton culminated in the passage of a resolution empowering the

Committee to purchase an adequate site for a new Association building in the Washington area, to employ an engineering firm to determine the type of building to be erected, and to report the Committee's conclusions and recommendations at the February Convention.

Address by Dr. Dunbar

Chief speakers at the luncheon session on Tuesday were Dr. Paul B. Dunbar, Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and Major General Carl A. Hardigg, of the Office of the Quartermaster General.

Dr. Dunbar complimented the canning industry on carrying out its heavy program of production during the war years without a breakdown of controls and in the face of manpower shortages, the necessary use of irreplaceable equipment, and other dangerous conditions. The number of seizures of canned foods was very small in consideration of these factors, and the speaker said the industry had every right to be proud of its record.

The Food and Drug Administration plans to get back into its program of establishing legal standards, Dr. Dunbar stated. This work was of necessity slowed down and interrupted by the war. With the resumption of this program he hopes that it may be continued until most canned fruits and vegetables are included.

He expressed his approval of the N.C.A. sponsored campaign in the direction of canning plant sanitation and described the efforts of the Laboratory to set up sanitation schools as a move in the right direction. He commends this program and urges that it be pushed energetically.

Dr. Dunbar sought to put to rest rumors that the Food and Drug Administration plans to engage in a wide and drastic program of enforcement. Enforcement work will of course continue, he asserted, but the \$200,000 increase in enforcement funds is intended to cover imported foods and drugs to the extent of about 50 percent of the amount. Because of wars abroad with their resultant damage to food manufacturing plants, practically every importation made today requires examination, stated Dr. Dunbar. The remaining 50 percent of the increased enforcement funds will be used in routine work, and the speaker said that the canning industry need not anticipate any more action from Food and Drug authorities than in the past.

General Hardigg also paid the canning industry a tribute in his statement that the Quartermaster Corps had received no complaints about canned

foods packed in this country. He believes the industry has the greatest opportunity he has ever observed in his lifetime, namely, that it can raise the standard of living by at least 50 percent. These possibilities are abetted, he stated, by the fact that there is no shortage of facilities, that transportation systems are adequate, that operating funds are available, and that there is "no shortage of management brains" in the industry.

E. Norton Reusswig of the Quartermaster Corps accompanied General Hardigg to the meeting and filed with the directors a report on the present method of procuring by means of direct contact with the processor. Details of this statement will be found on page 8851. The Directors voted in favor of continuation of the present method of Army procurement rather than a return to the former bid method.

The afternoon session on Tuesday started with a discussion of the sugar situation by H. E. Gray, chairman of the special committee on sugar. Members of the committee had been in consultation with government men in the hope of being able to obtain information on 1946 requirements before the Government had formulated its program of sugar allocation. The sense of the report was that a great deal more fact-finding is ahead of the industry. It was possible to report that preliminary government estimates of the 1946 crop show a probable increase of a million tons production over 1945. This does not include the amount available from Army allocations which was over a million tons in 1945. Army estimates indicate that its requirements will be about 25 percent of the war years.

Some time was then given to a general discussion of the industry's attitude toward the remaining Federal controls on its operations. This was for the purpose of bringing out the thinking of the group for the benefit and information of members of the industry advisory committee who were present and scheduled to go into session with government men Wednesday.

The last subject on the program prior to adjournment was the presentation by J. E. Fitzgerald, Assistant to the Secretary, of the details of arrangements for the Annual Convention in Atlantic City next February and instructions regarding procedure on room reservations, etc. These were reported in full in last week's INFORMATION LETTER.

At other points in the sessions the directors heard Clarence Goshorn of Benton & Bowles, Inc., present an illustrated lecture describing the advertising campaign being carried on by the

Canned Manufacturers Institute, and heard a humorous monologue by Strickland Gillian.

PROCEDURE IN HANDLING SUBSIDY PAYMENT CLAIMS

A detailed discussion of the method of filing for subsidy payments and a brief talk on the possibilities of improved methods in weather forecasting were the major subjects at the State Secretaries meeting Tuesday morning at the Shoreham Hotel. Principal speakers were Clifford P. Sivertson of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Dr. Charles F. Sarle of the U. S. Weather Bureau. Harvey F. Cahill, Secretary of the Utah Canners Association, presided as chairman of the meeting.

In discussing the proper methods for filing for subsidy payments, Mr. Sivertson emphasized that canners must exercise greater care in completing their subsidy agreements and application for subsidy forms. He pointed out that over 75 percent of the applications filed with his office have to be returned to canners for completion or for additional necessary information which was omitted on the initial filing. "Sending these forms back requires increased clerical work and only delays payment of the subsidy to the canner," he declared.

Mr. Sivertson explained the operation of the USDA field offices with regard to the subsidy program stating that the decision was made to have the bulk of the work of administering the program done by these field offices in an effort to expedite subsidy payments to canners. Before the 1945 subsidy agreements were issued this year, the staffs of the USDA field offices were brought into Washington for a special training course which was aimed to completely familiarize everyone in the field with the details of the subsidy program, he added.

In listing some of the reasons for delay in the processing of applications for subsidy payments Mr. Sivertson stated that canners frequently fail to file proof of certification, list plants and products, show government sales, or even sign the proper application forms. These are very important in securing prompt handling of subsidy applications.

Other USDA officials taking part in the subsidy discussion were Donald F. McMillen, Chief of Marketing, and Bradford Armstrong, both of the Fruit and Vegetable Branch.

There are four factors which dom-

inate agricultural production in any community, Dr. Sarle declared in outlining some of the Weather Bureau's plans for improving weather reports and statistics. These are the soil, the climate, the agriculture, and the people of any geographic region. It is frequently possible to control three of these factors, Dr. Sarle said, but the fourth, climate, can be studied and sometimes prophesied but not controlled to any marked degree. The Weather Bureau official pointed out, however, that with the initiation of a proposed program whereby the Bureau

would have access to records for the past 30 years coded on cards, and with the assistance of State universities and research organizations in keeping card records up to date, the problem of accurate weather forecast should be much easier.

Dr. Sarle stated that there was no means of a reliable long-range weather forecast at present but it is possible by using advanced scientific methods to make five-day forecasts, and that it is possible to show trends in climates which might be helpful to growers and canners.

COORDINATED ARMY CANNED FOOD BUYING PROGRAM

By E. Norton Reusswig, Quartermaster Corps

The enormous task of procuring subsistence for the Army has undergone radical changes in procedures and practices since the national defense program was initiated in 1940. These changes have been particularly marked in the purchasing of canned fruits and vegetables, which represent a considerable proportion of the food bought for the Army as well as for other military and war agencies. The principal change effected was the establishment of a centralized procurement system based on three central depots buying nationally as opposed to procurement locally as previously done by regional depots for installations in their areas. The second most important change was the establishment of field buying offices in heavy producing areas dealing directly with canners rather than with middlemen, brokers or wholesalers, as had been customary in the past.

The exigencies of total war made centralized procurement and the development of field buying offices absolutely necessary. The geometric expansion of the military services and war agencies and their greatly magnified requirements demanded efficient overall administration of procurement if our straining national economy was not to be taxed to the breaking point. Procurement of canned fruit and vegetables for all war services and agencies was assigned to the Army under the supervision of Major General Carl A. Hardigg, Chief, Subsistence Division, Office of The Quartermaster General. J. Howard Hamilton, who had been associated with the American Can Company, was appointed administrator of the coordinated buying program. Mr. Hamilton, in addition, administered the first reservation order of the War Production Board requiring canners to set aside quotas of their production for government buyers. This coordination of procurement for all military and war services eliminated the competitive battle for scarce food, which would have resulted in the dislocation of civilian economy. The Office of Production Management, the War Production Board, the Office of Price Administra-

tion and the War Food Administration worked closely with the Quartermaster Corps in developing and implementing the coordinated buying program.

Under the old Army procurement system the canning industry was reluctant to deal with the Army because of various deterrents. Complicated government bid forms buried canned food items deep in lists of other subsistence for shipment f.o.b. destination with inspection at delivery point. This made it difficult for canners to figure a bid and involved the risk of costly rejections. Federal specifications were obsolete in relation to commercial practices, and contract forms were often long and very involved. The provisions of the Walsh-Healey Act to improve general working conditions were extremely difficult to comply with in the canning industry. The new coordinated procurement program sought to ameliorate as much as possible these limiting factors in order to make the war services more favored customers.

The new procurement program was announced at the National Canners Convention in Chicago on October 20, 1941. Three central depots were assigned the responsibility of procuring specific food items. California Quartermaster Depot in Oakland was given the task of procuring all canned fruit other than apples and applesauce. Chicago Quartermaster Depot was to procure practically all of the canned vegetables as well as flour, rice, dried beans and peas, evaporated milk and canned meats. New York, which later became Jersey City Quartermaster Depot, was assigned the procurement of canned apples and applesauce, sugar, coffee, tea, extracts, spices, jams, pickles and syrups. This plan was officially authorized on May 14, 1942, to be put into operation on the following July first.

The requirements of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, War Shipping Administration, War Relocation Authority, War Food Administration, Veterans Administration and the Panama Railroad Company were coordinated by the Army in Washington and procurement opera-

tions were delegated to the three central depots. Previously, on March 15, 1942, coordinated procurement was implemented by M-86, the original set-aside order requiring each processor to set aside for the requirements of government agencies such quotas of canned foods as the War Production Board ordered. This set-aside was coordinated with Order M-81 which was issued to protect and conserve the tin resources of the country.

The next necessary step in the procurement of the canned fruits and vegetables was the establishment of field buying offices strategically located in heavy producing areas throughout the country from which ready access to all canners could be economically maintained. The California Depot opened field buying offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles, Calif.; Portland, Oreg.; Seattle, Wash.; and Salt Lake City, Utah. The Chicago Depot started field operations in Indianapolis, Ind.; Columbus, Ohio; Weslaco, Texas; Milwaukee, Wis.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Des Moines, Iowa; Fayetteville, Ark.; Springfield, Mo.; New Orleans, La.; Minneapolis, Minn.; and Bowling Green, Ky. Likewise, the Jersey City Depot installed buying offices at Baltimore, Md.; Portland, Maine; Easton, Md.; Roanoke, Va.; Lakeland, Fla.; Bridgeport, N. J.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Columbia, S. Car.; and Rochester, N. Y.

Approximately 60 experienced buyers were assigned to the field buying offices. These buyers were carefully selected from men thoroughly trained in the commercial trade for the mission they were to accomplish. Aside from procuring the canned fruits and vegetables required by the war services, these field buyers provided a direct and personalized connection between the Army and the processors and canners. They served as liaison men through whom government regulations could be communicated and properly interpreted to the industry. They facilitated the quick regulation of procurement to correspond with changing requirements of the various governmental agencies.

The tremendous procurement program conducted from 1942 through 1945 by the field buying organization and central procurement depots under the administration of the Subsistence Division of the Quartermaster Corps is realized when the following statistics are considered. A close estimate of the total fruit purchased over this period is 235,000,000 dozen size No. 2½ cans against 435,000,000 dozen size No. 2 cans of vegetables. This is the equivalent of 3½ billion pounds of canned fruit and 6½ billion pounds of canned vegetables, a grand total of 5,025,000 short tons of canned fruits and vegetables. Of this amount 63 percent was purchased for the Army and the remaining 37 percent procured for other war services.

The outstanding changes and achievements in the coordinated procurement program for canned fruits and vegetables can be enumerated as follows: (1)

Overall administration of the program in the office of the Quartermaster General in Washington where liaison is maintained with agencies and services being supplied and with cooperating governmental agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, War Production Board, and Office of Price Administration; (2) Centralized procurement in three main depots—California, Chicago and Jersey City; (3) Establishment of field buying offices strategically located in heavy producing areas; (4) Successful operation of set-aside orders on canned fruits and vegetables; (5) Simplification of government contract forms; (6) Inspection of canned foods at origin by the Agricultural Marketing Administration; (7) Acceptance of merchandise at origin and transporting goods on government bills of lading; (8) Designation of minimum grade requirements to improve quality procured for war services; (9) Standardization of tinplate packaging; (10) Development and perfection of V cases; (11) Elimination of labels on merchandise procured for military; (12) Successful development and use of coating for military requirements; and (13) Procurement at government ceiling prices 4 percent below commercial ceilings. Part of the success of the

coordinated procurement program on canned fruits and vegetables is attributable to the fact that the Quartermaster General administered coordinated procurement programs on all subsistence items. Experience, techniques and practices were pooled resulting in successful surmounting of recurring problems.

Coordinated buying throughout the war period has proved to be a successful and economical procedure. What part of the processes applying to combined food buying that have come into use during the war will be retained for peacetime when conditions of supply may be largely different cannot be accurately forecast at this time. However, its success and efficiency in wartime certainly merits its continuance. Under the assumption that the current member agencies in the program are favorably inclined towards a continuation of coordinated buying, it is thought that the combined requirements of all these agencies, even in peacetime, will represent a very considerable amount of canned foods which industry will be asked to furnish. It is to be hoped that both industry and Government may see the wisdom of continuing the coordinated buying principles and procedures in the future.

which a can of the Jones brand played a part, what happens? If the claim is thoroughly investigated, it may happen, as it usually does, that they come to understand that the illness was due to something else. If the claim is unfounded and suit is pressed a vigorous defense is made. The appearance of expert witnesses testifying to the safety and quality of canned foods alone serves as helpful education. The making of other claims is discouraged. And in view of the excellent record in defending these suits, if suit is brought, the eventual neighborhood reaction is that the claim was unfounded and therefore lost in court.

If instead of this, the applying of an underwriting concept results in getting rid of the claim through a small payment, it may be that others will be tempted to make like claims in the hope of also getting a small bonus on their purchase of a can of food. But, even if this type of racket does not result, any intelligent merchandiser will know that the story of what happened from the purchase and use of the Jones brand will be repeated over the neighborhood. The fact that the claim was paid serves to corroborate the charge of danger in the brand. It's only human for the neighboring housewife to think—and undoubtedly say—"If it wasn't their fault, they wouldn't have paid her so quickly."

It is for these reasons that the Association sometimes spends in investigation and in defense many, many times the amount for which the claim might be settled. This is done because in the long run it is the best way to protect your brand and my brand and those of our distributors.

The objective is not the same as insurance underwriting. Perhaps it is inconsistent with the theory of product liability insurance at the cheapest cost. Perhaps this type of system can not exist side by side with product liability underwriting on a simple cost basis. Perhaps to the extent that efforts are made to combine our service with product liability the objectives sought will be defeated.

This seems to be an appropriate time to talk about these points because there is some reason to believe that with changed conditions there may be an increase in consumer claims. When times are good, the number of such claims decreases. When conditions become less favorable, the number of consumer claims goes up. During the war years there was a marked decrease in such claims. In the next few years it is not unlikely that they will again increase in number.

It is thus important that all of us understand this problem which is very important in our industry, and that we appreciate the fundamental background of the NCA service.

As for the trust fund, its purpose is basically the same. The trust is corollary to maintaining the reputation and integrity of canned foods. Where a

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE PROTECTIVE FUND

By Ralph O. Dulany

A short time ago there was sent to each member of the Association a new revision of the pamphlet describing the Association's activities on consumer claims and the work of the Trustees under the Protective Fund trust.

Why does the Association investigate every claim of injury or illness said to have been caused by canned foods?

Why does it investigate not only claims reported to it by members but also claims reported in newspapers and obtained from a comprehensive clipping service?

Why does it pay for counsel and furnish expert witnesses to defend unfounded claims?

Why did we in 1932 establish, and in 1942 renew, a trust fund of \$50,000 to permit the trustees under certain conditions to make a canner whole if he suffered an adverse judgment in a suit defended by the Association's counsel?

The answer to these questions is not that we were offering a form of product insurance policy to canners. It is far broader—and much more important.

The fundamental purpose in investigating claims and contesting unfounded claims is this: To protect the integrity and reputation of canned foods as a whole.

The dedication of a very considerable part of the Association's budget to these purposes rests on the premise that if unfounded claims are permitted to go

unchallenged, the reputation of and public confidence in the products of every member of the Association will suffer.

In other words, gentlemen, our approach to this problem is not an underwriting approach. If it were, the probabilities are that the work could be done more cheaply. We could follow the theory of product liability insurance and keep our underwriting costs as low as possible. We could settle all claims that could be settled for a small sum rather than pay investigators and lawyers.

But those who established this service and later created the Protective Fund were practical men and, in my judgment, experienced merchandisers. They knew that, broadly speaking, a settlement of an unfounded claim with a small sum is shortsighted. It is an easy way out. But if one housewife hears that another, perhaps in the same apartment house, collected \$25 or \$50 by claiming that illness or injury had followed the eating of a can of vegetables or fruit, the inevitable result will be that she too may make a claim. Even if this type of "working the racket" does not develop, the bad, cumulative effects of applying the underwriting theory should be obvious.

Let us look at it in terms of one man's product, say the Jones brand of tomatoes. If one housewife or one family makes the claim that illness resulted from the eating of a meal in

canner has entrusted the defense of the suit to the Association—or has followed its recommendation in disposing of the case—the purpose of the trust comes into play. That purpose is to

provide that he should be made whole within the limits permitted by the trust. The trust is wholly discretionary and in each case the trustees act on the facts.

REPORT OF CAN SIZE SIMPLIFICATION COMMITTEE

By H. F. Krimendahl

The committee met on November 17 and reviewed in complete detail the current situation with respect to simplification of containers. It will be recalled that in 1938 the industry in collaboration with the Division of Simplified Practice of the National Bureau of Standards, canvassed the industry for the purpose of developing a Simplified Practice Recommendation for simplification of containers. In this work all state and regional canners associations cooperated.

The returns were collated and analyzed by the Bureau of Standards and in April, 1939, the preliminary report and the tentative can size list was submitted to the industry. The two objectives then sought were achieved in these recommendations. These were that the sizes selected for each product must be such as to prevent consumers confusion, that is, there must be sufficient differences in appearance and in net contents to prevent confusion in buying. The second objective was to select sizes so as to reduce to a minimum the expense to be incurred by the industry in adopting the recommended list.

In the list adopted, 16 sizes were recommended for a single product, and 17 sizes for more than one product. The 33 sizes accounted for 92 percent of the 1937 pack.

The response to the recommended list was gratifying and the recommendation was finally revised, effective September 1, 1940, and adopted by practically the entire industry.

As incident to the necessary tin conservation during the war years, and with the prohibition of packing of many items, the use of containers was controlled by Conservation Order M-81. This order is still in effect, and indeed the latest revision appeared on November 16. Substantially, Order M-81 followed, with respect to those products which were permitted to be packed, the pattern of the Simplified Practice Recommendation of 1940.

Necessarily the termination of Order M-81 is dependent upon the situation with respect to tin supplies. It is assumed that the requisite statutory authority in the Second War Practice Act will be provided by an extension of that law, and that M-81 in some form will continue for a good part of 1946. In other words, tin conservation requirements will have an impact upon container use through most, if not all, of the industry's operations in 1946.

The data before the committee makes it confident that as the industry goes

into its post-war operations, there will be continued adherence to the simplified Practice Recommendation which was accepted by the industry and to which virtually all canners gave their adherence in writing. On the other hand, it is believed that investigation of this subject should be continued and that the Association staff should as promptly as possible consult with the staff of the Simplified Practice Division of the National Bureau of Standards to the end that appropriate information may be assembled to determine what, if any, revisions or additions or changes should be made for the immediate post-war period in the Simplified Practice Recommendation.

In this connection the committee is not unmindful that the immediate post-war period will see the development of many new products, that the production of products in particular size containers popularized during the war may be increased, that new techniques of handling containers in terms of packaging and shipping cases may result in some revisions in container use, and that some degree of flexibility will, therefore, have to be recognized. The committee is satisfied, however, that this degree of flexibility will by and large be between the present Simplified Practice Recommendations, already adopted by the industry, and the next revision which it is hoped will soon be developed.

In its formal action, the committee forwarded to the Board of Directors the resolution as reported on page 8848.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE ON THE SANITATION PROGRAM

A statement by N. H. Sanborn, of the Washington Research Laboratory of the National Canners Association, on the background of the canning industry's sanitation program and a discussion of canning plant sanitation problems opened the meeting of the Food Plant Sanitation Conference at Rochester, N. Y., last week.

The Conference was held by the Association of New York State Canners, Inc., in cooperation with the National Canners Association and the New York State Experimental Station. Over 125 persons, representing 35 food processing firms and 8 suppliers, attended.

Following Mr. Sanborn's statement,

there was a discussion of the New York State Canners Proposed Sanitation Code. The code was presented by Dr. G. J. Hucker, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. Questions on the code were answered by Dr. Hucker and members of the New York State Canners Committee on Sanitation.

Dr. P. N. Burkard, Wyandotte Corporation, explained and illustrated by means of sample demonstrations the action and function of the raw materials commonly used in cleaning compounds. Mr. J. S. Gardiner, Diversey Corporation, spoke on the advantages of modern detergents and sterilizing agents and suggested methods of application. Mr. Gardiner emphasized that the clean-up crew should know the "where, when, why and how" to perform a thorough job of cleaning.

Dr. Herbert Schwartat, Cornell University, discussed Insect Control in Food Plants. The forms, methods, and limitations of DDT for insect control were explained. Dr. Donald Lewis, Pest Control Association, Ithaca, N. Y., spoke on Rodent Control in Food Plants. Dr. Lewis stated that "sanitation, rat-proofing, killing, and maintenance of a control program" was necessary to combat rodents.

Representatives from the following New York State bureaus were present: the New York State Food Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Markets, State Legal Staff, and the State Department of Health. Out-of-State persons were present from Pennsylvania, Michigan, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Ontario, Canada.

Notice to Pilchard Canners

Recent changes in the delivery of fish to the various claimant agencies have resulted in throwing our requirements for natural and tomato sauce pilchards out of balance, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has advised the Association. Because of the strong demand for tomato sauce pilchards both in ovals and in tails, canners are requested to pack as much as possible of their government fish in tomato sauce.

Indiana Canners Elect

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the Indiana Canners Association in Indianapolis, November 16: President—Maxwell Naas, Naas Corporation, Portland; vice president, J. E. Standiford, Vincennes Packing Corporation, Vincennes; and secretary-treasurer, A. F. Dreyer, Indianapolis.

WORK OF N. C. A. LABELING COMMITTEE IS REPORTED

By E. B. Cosgrove

Rapid progress has been made by the Labeling Committee, the Research Laboratory, and the Labeling Division of the N. C. A. toward the achievement of better labels for canned foods, since approval of the statement regarding labeling by the Association's Board of Directors last December. A copy of this statement appears on page 8452 of the INFORMATION LETTER for December 2, 1944. The committee believes that the position taken by the industry at that time not only created a better feeling within the industry itself about labeling, but also afforded a basis upon which the industry, through the Labeling Committee, could meet with certain consumer and other groups who were sincerely interested in better labels but with whom we had not previously been able to establish satisfactory contacts. We feel that out of these meetings a better understanding of the industry's problems and aims has come about.

During all of the meetings of the committee itself, in working out the terms to be used, we have found a willingness on the part of members to give and take in order to reach an agreement on terms. Careful painstaking study was given to the selection of each term, and every possible effort has been made by the committee to have the terms selected accurately reflect exactly what information should be carried on the label.

Information contained in the Labeling Manual served as a starting point for the work of the committee. Meetings were held in Chicago in the spring, at which time discussions took place regarding terms to be used for peas, corn, tomatoes, and beans. Following this meeting we submitted some of our recommendations to the distributors for their criticism and suggestions. The committee feels that great progress has been made toward obtaining the support of distributors' organizations for our work, as is evidenced by the fact that the following organizations have gone on record approving the labeling terms recommended in our program: Executive Committee of the National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, Board of Governors of the U. S. Wholesale Grocers Association, Executive Committee of the National Food Brokers Association, Executive Board of the National Association of Retail Grocers, and Executive Committee of the National Association of Food Chains. It is understood by these groups that final selection of label

terms rests with the National Canners Association and the Labeling Committee, but the Labeling Committee is committed to consult with and consider recommendations of the distributors.

The committee wishes to mention the very valuable assistance which has been given the work of the committee by the University of Maryland, and especially by Dr. Charles H. Mahoney at that institution, who made facilities available to us at a cost which was far less than we would otherwise have had to meet. The men in our laboratory have given the committee the utmost support and in many cases are providing us with information regarding objective tests than we could hardly have hoped for. The use by the laboratory of a spectrophotometer which gives a precise measure for the amount of greenness in fruits has been of great assistance in carrying forward the work on fruits.

The committee wishes to state that a continuing study of label terms is being made by the commodity groups and the laboratory. The question of workmanship and its effect on quality is an illustration of this point.

The committee asks for a motion approving these terms which have been recommended by the Labeling Committee.

It was moved and seconded that the following resolution be adopted by the Board of Directors:

Resolved, That the Board of Directors approve the label terms included in the report of the Chairman of the Labeling Committee and extend approval to the recommendations of any selection of terms from among the required optional terms in Food and Drug Administration regulations which one of the commodity committees may select or may be selected by mail vote from canners of such products and approved by the Labeling Committee.

ICC Issues Order to Speed Box Car Loading and Unloading

Emergency measures to speed up loading and unloading of box cars in order to relieve the present serious box car shortage were announced this week by the Office of Defense Transportation and Interstate Commerce Commission. In order to overcome delays in rail freight movements, the ICC issued two orders, one of which places heavy demurrage charges on loading and unloading of box cars and the other re-

quires railroads promptly to unload all freight cars which are their responsibility to unload.

The demurrage order on box cars was issued, it was explained, because box cars are being delayed unduly in loading and unloading thus causing a shortage of equipment. The action is taken in ICC Service Order No. 369 which is practically identical with ICC Service Order No. 242, issued for periods in the fall of 1944 and the summer of 1945. The new order became effective at 7 a. m., November 15, 1945, and expires December 15, 1945.

The demurrage order provides that all box cars, whether or not subject to an "average agreement," are subject to the following demurrage charges on detention in loading or unloading:

\$2.20 per car per day for the first two days; \$5.50 per car per day for the third day; \$11.00 per car per day for the fourth day and \$16.50 per car per day for each succeeding day. The order does not apply to import, export, coastwise or intercoastal traffic.

The second order, ICC Service Order No. 363, was issued, the agencies stated, because box cars containing freight are being held by railroads for an unreasonable length of time and the delay in unloading such cars is aggravating the existing shortage of box cars, calling for immediate emergency action. Under the order, at all points, including ports, where the carrier has the duty, responsibility or obligation to unload freight, the railroad is required to unload any such freight held in box cars within 10 days of the car's arrival. This order applies to any box car held short of such unloading points, and the 10-day period begins after arrival at such holding points.

Service Order 368 became effective at 12:01 a. m., November 15, 1945, and expires December 15, 1945. This order is subject to special or general permits that may be issued by the director of the ICC Bureau of Service.

Farm Machinery Output Drops

Farm machinery production decreased \$17,707,697 in the third quarter of 1945 from the corresponding 1944 total of \$163,551,380 because of peace-time transition difficulties, the Civilian Production Administration has stated. However, production is expected to start moving up moderately in November.

Lack of materials, particularly steel sheets and castings, was the biggest stumbling block to increased production as shown by 300 reporting companies, according to the CPA's Farm Machinery and Equipment Division.

CONGRESS SUMMARY

Principal activities in Congress this week affecting cannery are summarized below:

The House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee reported favorably the Bullwinkle Bill (H. R. 2536) to protect carriers against anti-trust suits resulting from rate-making conferences. This bill is intended to permit rail, pipeline, highway and water carriers to confer with each other on rates and other matters without incurring charges of violation of Federal statutes. The Committee's report on the bill will be made available soon.

Chairman Thomas of the Senate Agricultural Committee has introduced an amendment to the pending appropriation bill for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to require that UNRRA pay the full parity prices for all food purchased in the United States. The amendment provides that no part of the appropriation shall be available to purchase agricultural products, whether raw or processed, at a price below the full parity price as fixed by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, and by the Stabilization Act of 1942.

On Wednesday Senators Thomas and McKellar, at a closed hearing on the appropriation for UNRRA, accused some foreign nations of selling United Nations relief supplies for the benefit of their own governments. The governments were not named.

The House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday approved extension of certain titles of the Second War Powers Act for six months beyond the life of the present act. This would give the Government authority to ration and allocate scarce materials until June 30, 1946, instead of until December 31, 1945, as presently provided.

Senate approval was given by voice vote Wednesday on the conference committee report on the land grant rate repeal (H. R. 604). As approved by the Senate, the bill would repeal, effective October 1, 1946, the present preferential rates and fares granted to the Government on transportation of its freight and personnel over land grant railroads. The bill does not affect commercial rates. The House has not yet acted on the conference report. However, recently when an earlier conference report was before the House, it was rejected and the bill sent back to conference.

The Senate, on Tuesday, set a 120-day deadline for return to the States of all the job offices, equipment, and personnel

covered under the U. S. Employment Service. The provision was included in the so-called "rescission bill" passed by the Senate which cut back \$51,244,680,000 of unexpended war appropriations. Previously, the House had specified in passing the same bill that the job-finding offices and facilities go back to the States in 30 days. While House-Senate conferees may work out a compromise, under no circumstances could they fix a date later than April 1.

By a voice vote, the Senate then modified minor concessions made by the Senate Appropriations Committee. Stricken from the bill was language giving the Secretary of Labor authority to operate any State system if it failed to meet Labor Department standards for U. S. Employment Service offices.

Fortheoming Meetings

November 26—Texas Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Casa De Palmas Hotel, McAllen.

November 26-27—Packaging Institute, Annual Meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York, N. Y.

November 29-30—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 31st Annual Convention, Yorktowne Hotel, York.

December 3—National Kraut Packers Association, Chicago, Ill.

December 6-7—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, 44th Annual Convention, Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa.

December 7-8—Tri-State Packers' Association, Annual Convention, Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Md.

December 10—Maine Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Eastland Hotel, Portland.

December 18—Minnesota Canners Association, 39th Annual Meeting, St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul.

December 13-14—Association of New York State Canners, Inc., 60th Annual Meeting, Hotel Statler, Buffalo.

December 19-20—Ohio Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Deshler-Wallace Hotel, Columbus.

January 7-11, 1946—National Council of Farmers Cooperatives, 17th Annual Meeting, Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

January 9-11—Northwest Canners Association, Gearhart Hotel, Gearhart, Ore.

February 3-8—National Canners Association, Annual Convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 3-8—National Food Brokers Association, Annual Convention, Dennis Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 3-8—Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Annual Convention, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 3-8—National American Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, Marlboro-Blenheim, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 21-22—Ozark Canners Association, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.

March 8—Canners League of California, Annual Meeting, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco.

Set-aside Restrictions on All Atlantic Sea Herring Are Lifted

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced that cannery of Atlantic sea herring (including Maine sardines) will not be required to reserve for governmental use any part of their packs processed after November 10, 1945. This is provided in Amendment 16 to War Food Order 44.

Under provisions of WFO 44, the USDA reserved 65 percent of the pack for the period April 1, 1945, to September 29, 1945, inclusive, and 30 percent of the pack for the period September 30, 1945, to November 10, 1945, inclusive. None of the set-aside provisions will apply to the portion of this class of canned fish processed after November 10, USDA stated.

Because the fall pack is nearly finished, this reduction in the government take will not have an immediate effect on the quantities of canned Atlantic sea herring available for the civilian trade. However, it means there will be no restrictions on deliveries from the spring pack beginning in February.

Continued reductions in the quantities of canned fish needed for the armed services make this action possible.

Canned Fish Pack for 1945

On the basis of the latest available information, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that the production of canned fish during 1945 will total 17,600,047 standard cases as compared with last year's pack of 18,374,661 standard cases. The following table shows the estimated pack by varieties:

Varieties	Cases	Pounds
Salmon:		
United States.....	533,333	25,600,000
Alaska.....	4,900,000	206,400,000
Sardines and sea herring:		
Maine:		
Sardines.....	2,500,000	50,750,000
Sea herring.....	88,889	4,000,000
California.....	4,000,000	180,000,000
Tuna.....	3,750,000	78,750,000
Mackerel.....	744,444	33,500,000
Shellfish.....	1,220,714	25,305,000
Other fish.....	531,667	23,925,000
Total.....	17,600,047	628,230,000

Rationing Ended for Canned Fish, and Meats, Fats and Oils

Termination of rationing of meats, canned fish, and of fats and oils, effective 12:01 a. m., November 24, was announced Friday by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson. The decision to end rationing of these foods was concurred in by Price Administrator Chester Bowles.

Consumers will no longer be required to turn in ration stamps or other ration evidence for purchase of beef, pork, veal, mutton, canned fish, butter, lard, shortening, margarine or related oils. The only food item remaining under rationing control is sugar. Because of the serious world-wide shortage, there is no immediate prospect of lifting sugar rationing, it was stated.

The decision to lift rationing of all foods except sugar is made possible by the changes in food requirements and supplies which have taken place since V-J Day.

"We have watched this rationing situation carefully," Secretary Anderson said, "and have waited until we felt sure of our ground before the decision to end controls on meats, canned fish, and fats and oils was reached. While we have had good supplies of beef in recent weeks, the seasonal increase in hog slaughter is just getting under way. We estimate that for the month of December supplies of meat available to U. S. civilians will be at an annual rate of about 165 pounds per capita, after allowing for military needs, for set-asides to produce over 30 million pounds weekly for shipment abroad to Allied and liberated countries, and four million pounds for commercial export. Even if UNRRA should take a substantial tonnage, the supply would still be above those limits that would make the continuance of rationing essential.

"Although fats and oils will continue in short supply throughout the world, the discontinuance of rationing of these commodities in this country at the same time that meat rationing is being lifted appears preferable to the institution of a completely new system of rationing for fats and oils alone," Secretary Anderson pointed out. "To continue rationing of fats and oils, after cessation of meat rationing, would require a completely new rationing system, involving the re-registration of more than 500,000 industrial and institutional users and the possible issuance of new ration books to all civilians in this country."

For the month of December supplies of fats and oils are expected to be at an annual rate of 50 pounds per capita,

compared with an average prewar consumption of 48 pounds. During the first and second quarters of 1946 per capita civilian supplies of fats and oils are expected to be at the annual rate of about 45 pounds, or nearly 10 percent below the prewar rate.

In order to fulfill commitments on food to be shipped abroad, Secretary Anderson said that set-asides and other necessary regulations will be continued. Manufacturers of shortening, margarine, salad oil and other products will continue to operate under existing quota limitations. Allocations and export and import controls will be maintained to help insure an orderly flow of food supplies for use in this country and abroad.

California Sardine Pack

Deliveries of California sardines to processing plants during the week ended November 17 totaled 9,484 tons. Pack of sardines during the week was 139,684 cases. The following table shows the sardine deliveries by districts and the pack by can sizes for the current season as compared with 1944:

	Season to (Nov. 17, 1945)	Season to (Nov. 18, 1944)
Tonnage:	Tons	Tons
Northern district	82,288	
Central district	1,871	131,163
Southern district	7,613	77,974
Total	9,484	291,425
Pack:	Cases	Cases
1-lb. oval	848,104	916,796
1-lb. tall	1,536,816	1,103,999
½-lb. fillet		3,043
½-lb. round, 96's	31,562	34,805
5-oz. 100's		
Miscellaneous	69,933	69,625
Total	3,506,355	2,319,288

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Held in Cold Storage

Stocks of frozen fruits in cold storage on November 1, 1945, totaled 382,407,000 pounds against 360,230,000 pounds on October 1, 1945, and 301,590,000 pounds on November 1, 1944, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Frozen vegetable stocks on November 1, 1945, were 202,880,000 pounds as compared with 189,033,000 pounds on October 1, 1945, and 186,084,000 pounds on November 1, 1944. The following table furnishes details by commodities:

Commodity	Nov. 1, 1944	Oct. 1, 1945	Nov. 1, 1945
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
FROZEN FRUITS			
Apples	10,873	22,914	26,383
Blackberries	12,792	31,969	19,559
Cherries	41,704	29,367	27,567
Young, Logan, Boysen	9,190	12,135	12,231
Raspberries	14,627	16,797	15,562
Strawberries	23,488	39,500	27,909
Grapes	22,237	6,357	17,673
Plums and prunes	15,343	18,466	19,215
Peaches	36,481	60,441	72,034
Fruit juices and purées	26,048	24,096	22,784
Apricots		35,001	34,503
Blueberries		15,830	17,538
All other fruits	95,808	66,748	68,457
Total	301,590	360,230	382,407
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus	5,488	12,312	10,990
Beans, lima	13,384	10,983	16,248
Beans, snap	16,573	20,023	20,903
Broccoli	3,429	2,122	3,209
Cauliflower	1,786	992	3,121
Corn, sweet	19,788	16,705	23,824
Peas, green	51,073	84,937	74,968
Spinach	11,359	9,800	12,082
Brussels sprouts	2,066	734	906
Pumpkin and squash	6,627	3,613	6,473
Baked beans	3,453	1,497	1,432
Vegetable purées	531	595	446
All other vegetables	51,457	24,720	28,214
Total	186,084	180,033	202,880
OTHER FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
Dried and evaporated fruits	63,624	58,452	54,121
Canned fruits and vegetables	2,303	11,364	4,402

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
M-81 errors and omissions	8847
Board of Directors meeting	8847
Details of N.C.A. Board of Directors meeting	8848
Procedure in handling subsidy payment claims	8850
Coordinated Army canned food buying program	8851
Report of Trustees of the Protective Fund	8852
Report of Can Size Simplification Committee	8853
New York conference on the sanitation program	8853
Notice to pilchard cannery	8853
Indiana cannery elect	8853
Work of N.C.A. Labeling Committee is reported	8854
ICC issues order to speed boxcar loading and unloading	8854
Farm machinery output drops	8854
Congress summary	8855
Forthcoming meetings	8855
Set-aside restrictions on all Atlantic sea herring are lifted	8855
Canned fish pack for 1945	8855
Rationing ended for canned fish, and meats, fats and oils	8856
California sardine pack	8856
Frozen fruit and vegetable stocks held in cold storage	8856